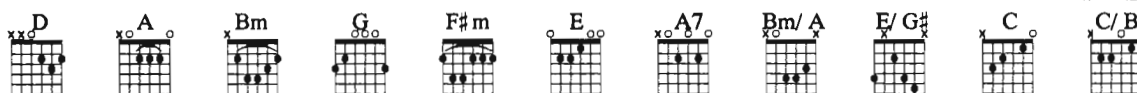
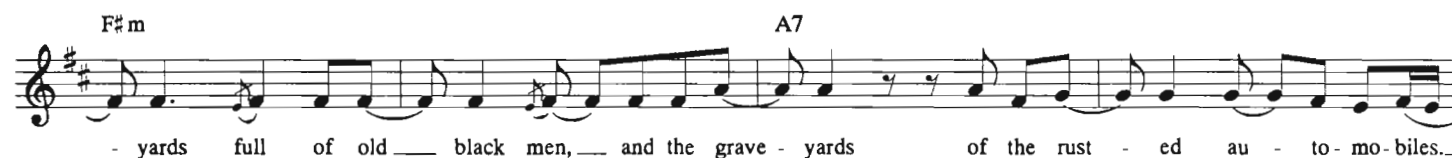
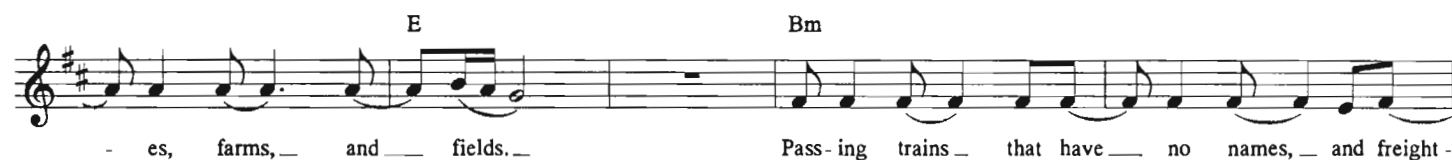
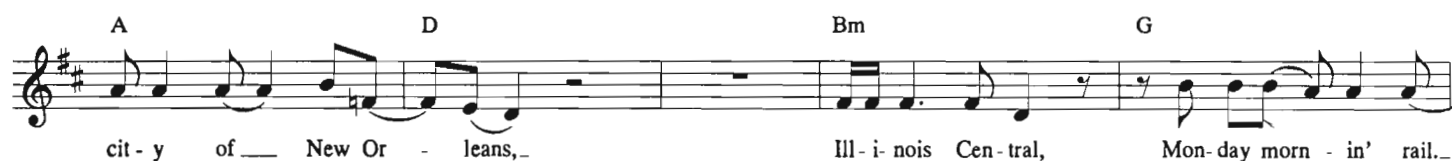
The Willie Nelson Guitar Songbook
Authentic GUITAR-TAB Edition ™
Includes Complete Solos

Library
B134263370

AUTHENTIC TRANSCRIPTIONS

CONTENTS

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Words and Music by
STEVE GOODMAN

Chorus:
D G A D Bm
Good-morn-in' A-mer-i-ca how_ are you?___ Say, don't you know_ me,_
G D A D A
sim.
I'm your na-tive son.___ I'm the train they call___ the "Cit-y of___ New Or-
Bm Bm/A E/G♯ C C/B A
3rd time to Coda
-leans"_ and I'll be gone___ five-hun-dred miles___ when the day___ is
1.
D
2.
D
done. 2. Deal-in' done.
Guitar Solo
G A D Bm
sim.
G D A D A Bm Bm/A
E/G♯ C C/B A D
D.S. al Coda

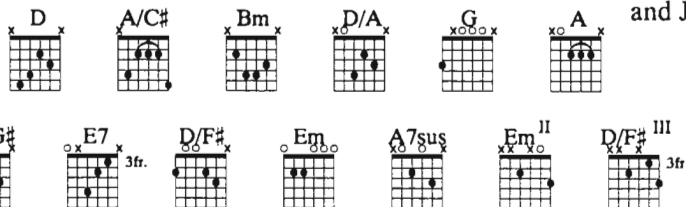
Verse 2:

Dealin' cards with the old man in the club car.
Penny a point, ain't no one keepin' score.
Pass the paper bag that holds the bottle,
feel the wheels rumblin' 'neath the floor.
And the sons of pullman porters and the sons of engineers
ride their fathers magic carpet made of steel.
Mothers with their babes asleep rockin' to the gentle beat
and the rhythm of the rails is all they feel.

Verse 3:

Night time on the City of New Orleans,
changin' cars in Memphis Tennessee.
Half way home, we'll be there by morning;
through the Mississippi darkness rollin' down to the sea.
But all the towns and people seem to fade into a bad dream
and the steel rails still ain't heard the news.
The conductor sings his songs again, "The passengers will please refrain, . . ."
This train has got the disappearing railroad blues.

ALWAYS ON MY MIND

Words and Music by
WAYNE THOMPSON, MARK JAMES
and JOHNNY CHRISTOPHER

Em
Em/D
A(5)
Bm
A/C#
D
Em
D/F#
You were al - ways on my mind,
G
A7
D
G
A
Verse 2:
D
you were al - ways on my mind.
And may-be I did-n't
A/C#
Bm sus2
D/A
G
hold you all those lone-ly, lone - ly times.
D
A/C#
(Bm)
D/A
I guess I nev-er told you I'm so hap-py that you're mine.

E7/G♯ E7 𝄋 G D

Lit - tle things ___ I should have said and done,

hold hold hold hold

G D/F♯ Em9 G/D A G/B A/C♯

I just nev - er took _ the time. ___ But you were al - ways on my

hold hold hold hold hold

2nd time to Coda ⊕

D Em D/F♯ G A7 D G A

mind, you were al - ways on my ___ mind. ___

hold hold hold hold hold hold

Bridge:

Rhy. Fig. 2

D A/C♯ Bm D/A G D/F♯

Tell ___ me, tell me that your sweet love ___ has - n't

end Rhy. Fig. 2 **w/Rhy. Fig. 2**

Em A7sus A D A/C♯ Bm D/A

died. ___ And give me, ___ give me

Guitar Solo
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
G
D/F♯
Em
A7sus
A
D
one more chance to keep you sat - is - fied, I'll keep you sat - is - fied.
Gtr. 3 (Elec.)
mf
A/C♯
Bm
D/A
G
A
D
Gtr. 2
D.S. al Coda
A/C♯
Bm
D/A
E7/G♯
E7
(Gtr. 3 out)
Coda
D
A
Bm
A/C♯
mind,
you were al - ways on my
Freely
D
Em II
D/F♯ III
G
A
D
rit.
mind,
you were al - ways on my mind.

BLUE EYES CRYING IN THE RAIN

Words and Music by
FRED ROSE

Moderately ♩ = 120
Intro:

B
E
I knew we'd nev-er meet a-gain.
(end Rhy. Fig. 2)
hold
Chorus:
A
D/F♯ E
Love is like a dy-ing em-ber; and on-ly
memo-ries re-main.
Verse 3:
w/Rhy. Fig. 2
B
N.C.
And through the ag-es I'll re-
mem-ber Blue eyes cry-in' in the rain.

Guitar Solo:
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
E
1/4
1/2
B
E
hold
w/Rhy. Fig. 1 (1st 6 bars only)
B
E
E
C
Cdim
B
E7/B
B♭
Gm/B♭
* Gtr. 2
* Acous. steel string
Chorus:
A
Some - day when we meet up yon - der,

D/F♯
E
we'll stroll hand and hand a-gain
hold
B
N.C.
Verse 4:
E
in a land
hold
that knows no part - ing.
B
Blue eyes
hold
cry - in' in the rain.
E
A
E
rit.
hold
hold
hold

GEORGIA ON MY MIND
Lyrics by
STUART GORRELL
Music by
HOAGY CARMICHAEL
Slow ballad ♩ = 58
Intro: Gtr. 2
(Organ arr. for gtr.)
Gtr. 2 (Nylon string)
Verse 1:
Rhy. Fig. 1
Georg - ia,
Georg - ia,
the whole day
through,
just an old
sweet song
keeps Georg - ia
on my
mind.
end Rhy. Fig 1
Verse 2:
Georg - ia,
Georgia On My Mind - 4 - 1
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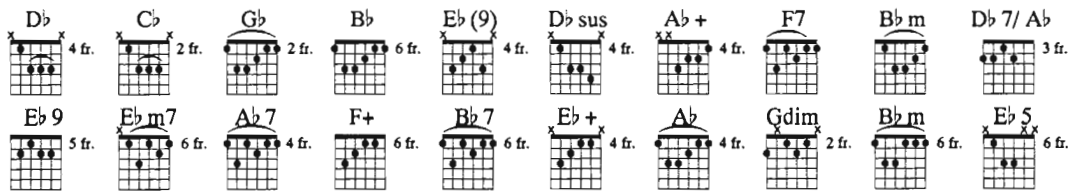
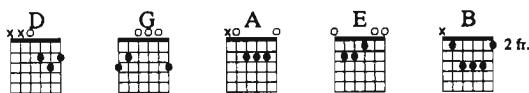

F7
Bb m
Db 7/ Ab
Gb
Gdim
Georg - ia,
a song
of you
comes
hold
Db / Ab
(Bb 7)
Eb m7
Ab
Db 5
Gb
sweet and clear,
as moon - light
through the pines.
Bridge:
Db
F5
Bb m
Eb 5
(Bb m)
Gb
Oth - er arms
reach
out
to me,
Bb m
Eb 5
(Bb m)
Eb
(Bb m)
(Eb m/ Gb)
oth - er eyes
smile
ten - der - ly.
Still
in
peace - ful

D♭ C Fm7 E E♭m7 A♭7
dreams I see the road leads back to you.
hold hold hold hold hold hold
Verse 3:
D♭ F7 B♭m D♭/A♭
Georg - ia, Georg - ia, no peace I
hold hold hold hold
G♭ E♭9/G (D♭/A♭) B♭ E♭m7 A♭7(no 3rd)
find. Just an old sweet song keeps Georg - ia on my
hold hold hold
D♭ G♭ D♭ A♭7(♯5)
Harp solo
w/ Rhy. Fig. 1
8
D♭
mind. Georg- ia,
hold hold hold hold
T
A
B

GOOD HEARTED WOMAN

Words and Music by
WAYLON JENNINGS and
WILLIE NELSON

Fast country double time ♩ = 144
Intro:
Gtr.1 (Nylon string)

* Hold notes to form chords at your discretion

Verses 1 and 2:

G
are just fell by the way.
And the good
A
life he prom-ised
ain't what she's liv-in' to-day.
D
But she nev-er com-plains of the bad times or the bad things he's
G
done, Lord.
A
She just talks a-bout all the good times they've had
TAB

D
and all the good times to come.
She's a
Chorus:
G
good - heart - ed wo - man in love with a good - tim - in' man.
A
And she loves him in spite of his ways that she don't un - der - stand.
D
Through tear - drops and laugh - ter they're gon - na'
T
A
B

G
pass through this world _ hand _ in hand.
This
A
D
2nd time to Coda
good heart - ed wo - man in love with a good - tim - in' man. _
Harp solo
D
G
A
D
Piano solo
4

D.S. al Coda
A7
D

Coda
D
E
She's a good heart - ed wo - man in love with a good - tim - in' man.

A
B
She loves him in spite of his ways that she don't un - der - stand.

E
Through tear - drops and laugh - ter they're gon - na

Verse 2:

He likes the night life;
the bright lights and his good timin' friends.
And when the party's all over
she'll welcome him back home again.
Y'all know she don't understand him,
she does the best that she can.
She's a good hearted woman
in love with a good timin' man.

MAMMAS DON'T LET YOUR BABIES GROW UP TO BE COWBOYS

Words and Music by
ED BRUCE and
PATSY BRUCE

D
Dsus
D
e - ven with some - one they love.
Verse 1:
sim.
G
Cow - boys ain't ea - sy to love and they're hard - er to hold, and
hold
A6
D
they'd rath - er give you a song than dia - monds and gold.
G
Lone star belt buck - les, and old fa - ded Le - vi's and each night be - gins a new day.

A6
And if you don't un-der-stand him, and he don't die young,
hold
D
he'll prob-'ly just ride a-way.
Chorus:
Mam-mas, don't let your ba-bies grow up to be cow-boys.
G
sim.
A7
Don't let 'em pick guit-ars and drive in old trucks,
make 'em be doc-tors, and law-yers and such.
D

sim.
G
A7
Mam - mas, don't let your ba - bies grow up to be cow - boys.
They'll nev - er stay home and they're
hold
D
al - ways a - lone,
e - ven with some - one they love.
hold
Verse 2:
E
sim.
A
Cow - boys like smok - ey old pool rooms and clear moun - tain morn - ings.
B7
w/Fill 1
E
Lit - tle warm pup - pies, and child - ren and girls of the night.
And
them that don't know him won't like him and them that do
A
B
some - times won't know how to take him.
He ain't wrong, he's just dif - 'frent but
Fill 1
(Gtr. 1)

w/ Fill 2 — E — *Chorus:*

his pride won't let him_ do the things to make you think_ he's right. Mam - mas,_ don't let your ba-

A — B

- bies grow up to be cow - boys. Don't let 'em pick guit - ars and drive in old trucks,

w/ Fill 3 — E

make 'em be doc - tors and law - yers and such.

sim. — w/ Fill 4 — A — B7

Mam - mas,_ don't let your ba - bies grow up to be cow - boys. They'll nev - er stay home_ and they're

E

al - ways a - lone, e - ven_ with some - one they_ love. Mam - mas,_ don't let your ba_

w/ Fill 5 — A — B7

- bies grow up to be cow - boys. Don't let 'em pick guit - ars and drive in old trucks,

w/ Fill 6 — E — *Repeat and fade*

make 'em be doc - tors and law - yers and such. Mam - mas,_ don't let your ba -

Fill 2
(Gtr.1)

Fill 3
(Gtr. 1)

Fill 4
(Gtr. 1)

Fill 5
(Gtr. 1)
A B7

Fill 6
(Gtr. 1)

MY HEROES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN COWBOYS

Words and Music by
SHARON VAUGHN

E
E/B
A
A/E
D
I burned up my child - hood days.
I learned all the
hold
D/A
D
D/A
G
rules of a mod-ern day drift-er;
don't you hold on
to noth-in' too long.
D
D/A
G
Just take what you need from the
D
G
D/A
Dadd9
A
la - dies then leave them with the words of a sad coun - try

Verse 2:

Cowboys are special, with their own brand of misery
from being alone too long.
You could die from the cold in the arms of
a nightmare, knowing well your best days are gone.
Pickin' up hookers instead of my pen, I let the
words of my youth fade away.
Old worn out saddles and old worn out mem'ries
with no one and no place to stay.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Words and Music by
WILLIE NELSON

Moderate double-time feel ♩ = 104

Bass and Drums

N.C. (E) E

On the road

Gtr.1 (Nylon string)

mf

hold

Verses:

Gtr. 2 (Elec.) E

p

sim.

G#7

again, just can't wait to get on the road again.

hold

F#m9 F#m

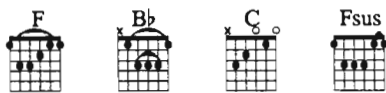
The life I love is mak-in' mu-sic with my friends, and

A
B
E
I can't wait to get on the road again.
On the road again,
hold
G#7
3
go-in' pla-ces that I've nev-er been.
See-in' things that I may
F#m9
A
B
E
nev-er see a-gain, and I can't wait to get on the road a-gain.
On the road
Chorus:
A
sim.
a-gain, like a band of gyp-sies we go down the high-

E
A
- way. We're the best of friends in - sist - ing that the world be turn - ing our
hold
hold
E
B
E
way, and our way is on the road a - gain,
hold
G#7
sim.
I just can't wait to get on the road a - gain.
The life I love is mak-in' mu -
hold
2nd time to Coda
F#m
A
B
E
- sic with my friends, and I can't wait to get on the road a - gain.
Gtr. 3 (Elec.)
(mf)

Interlude
N.C.
(E)
Gtr. 2
(G♯7)
Gtr. 3 (Elec.)
Gtr.1
1/2
1/2
(F♯m)
(A)
(B)
1.
2.
(E)
(E)
D.S.𝄋 al Coda
On the road_
Coda
E
A
B
sim.
And I can't wait to get on__ the road__ a- gain._
hold
E
A
B
E
B
E

UNCLOUDY DAY

TRADITIONAL
Arrangement by WILLIE NELSON

Fast ♩ = 168
Guitar solo: **Gtr. 2 (Acous.)**

Gtr. 1 (Nylon string) *f*

F B♭

F C

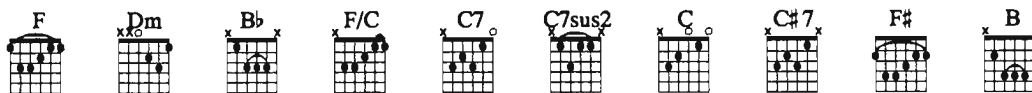
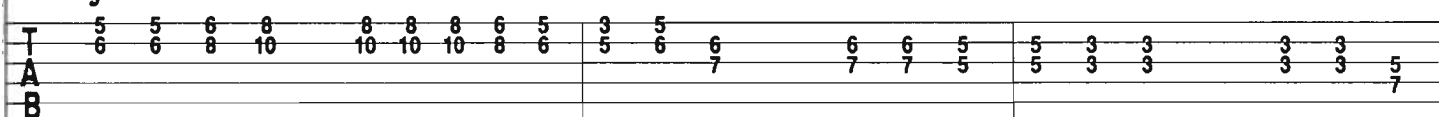
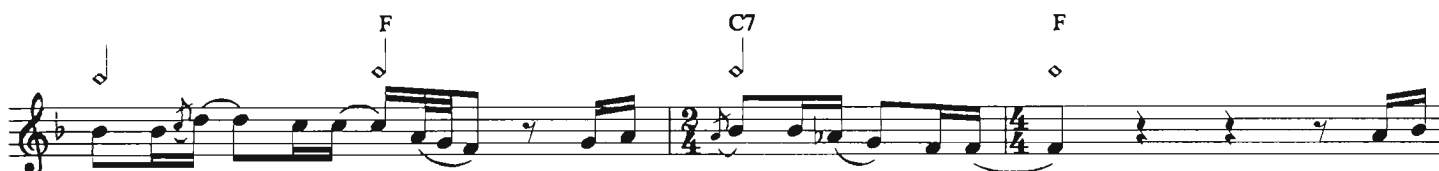
F *sim.*

Verse 2:
Well they tell me of a home where my friends have gone.
And they tell me of that land far away.
Where the dream of life and eternal bloom
shares its fragrance through the uncloudy day.

Verse 3:
Oh they tell me of the King and his beauty there,
And they tell me that mine eyes shall behold
where he sits on the throne that is whiter
than snow in the city that is made of gold.

Verse 4:
Oh they tell me that he smiles on his children there.
And his smile drives their sorrows away.
And they tell me that no tears will ever come again,
in that lovely land of uncloudy days.

SEVEN SPANISH ANGELS

Words and Music by
EDDIE SETSER and
TROY SEALS

Chorus:

Both gtrs.
C
sev - en Span - ish an - gels _ at the al - tar of _ the sun. They were

F
pray'n for the lov- ers _ in the val - ley of _ the gun. When the

F
B♭
bat - tle stopped, and the smoke cleared, _ there was thun- der from _ the throne, _ and

2nd time to Coda
F
C7
F
sev - en Span - ish an - gels _ took a - noth - er an - gel home. _

Verse 2: (Willie Nelson)
She reached down and picked the gun up that lay smok-
Gtr.1
hold
T
A
B

C7
- in' in his hand_ She said,"Fa - ther, please_ for - give me. I can't make it with - out_ my man."
hold
hold
hold
hold

F
And she knew the gun ___ was emp - ty, and she
hold

B♭
F
knew she could - n't win, ___ but her fi - nal pray - er was an - swered_ when the ri -
hold

D.S.𝄋 al Coda

C7 F

fles fired ___ a - gain. ___ There were

hold hold hold

Coda

F C♯7

Chorus:

F♯

___ There were sev- en Span - ish an - gels ___ at the al - tar of ___ the sun. ___

C♯7

sim.

___ They were pray'n for the lov - ers ___ in the val - ley of ___ the gun. ___

F♯ B

When the bat - tle stopped, and the smoke cleared, ___ there was thun - der from ___ the throne, ___ and

w/Fill 1 (1st time only)

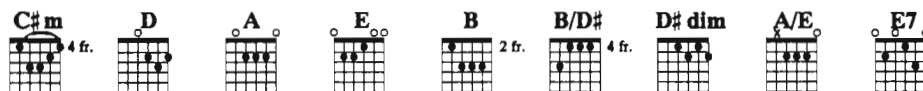
F♯ C♯7 F♯

sev - en Span - ish an - gels ___ took a - noth - er an - gel home. ___ There were

ANGEL FLYING TOO CLOSE TO THE GROUND

Words and Music by
WILLIE NELSON

Freely

N.C. — C♯m — (D) D5

If you had not have fall - en, then I would not have

mf hold

A — (D) D5 — E — A

found you. An - gel fly - ing too close to the ground.

hold

E

Slowly ♩ = 60

Verses 1 & 2:

A — C♯m

1. And I ___ patched up your bro - ken wing,
2. *See additional lyrics.*

hold

(D)
D5
A
B
and hung a-round a-while;
try'n' to keep your spir-its
hold
up,
(E)
and your fe - ver down.
hold
(A)
(C#m)
D5
I knew some-day
that you would fly a - way,
C#5 C5
B5
(B/D#)
(E)
for love's the great-est heal-er
to be found.
hold

Verse 2:

Fly on, fly on past the speed of sound,
I'd rather see you up than see you down.

N.C. (G)

_ you're all ___ I got _ take care _ of me. __

T A B

Verses 1 & 2:

Double time ♩ = 𝅗𝅥

w/Fill 1 (2nd time only)

(C) (G)

1.2. I'm drown - ing in ___ a whis - key riv - er, bath - ing my

T A B

(A) (D) (G)

mem - 'ried mind _ in the wet - ness ___ of its soul. Feel - ing the am -

T A B

(C)
- ber cur - rent flow - ing from my mind, and
hold
(D)
(G)
Half time
warm an emp - ty heart you left so cold.
Whis- key Riv- er take my mind,
Chorus:
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
(C7)
don't let her mem - 'ry tor - ture me.
(G7)
(D)
Whis - key Riv - er don't run dry
2nd time to Coda
(G)
you're all I got, take care of me.

Guitar solo:
(C)
(G)
(D)
(G)
(C)

(G)
(D)
(G)
(C)
(G)
(D)
1/2
(G)
D.S. al Coda
T
A
B

Coda
w/Rhy. Fill 1
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
C7
Whis- key Riv- er take my mind;
don't let her mem - 'ry tor - ture me.

(G7)
(D7)
Whis - key Riv - er don't run dry;

w/Fill 2
N.C. (G)
G
you're all I got take care of me.

Rhy. Fill 1
TAB
5 5
3 3

Fill 2
N.C.
G
TAB
1 3 3 3 0 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 4 4 4
4 5 5 5 4 3 2 1 0
0 0 0 3

Always On My Mind

Angel Flying Too Close To The Ground

Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain

City Of New Orleans

Georgia On My Mind

Good Hearted Woman

Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys

My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys

On The Road Again

Uncloudy Day

Whiskey River

Seven Spanish Angels

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